

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful review of this application. Claim 1-27 were canceled without prejudice. New claims 29-54 were introduced for consideration. No new matter was added. Therefore, claims 28-54 are currently pending in this application.

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The present invention was subjected to a Restriction Requirement under 35 § U.S.C. 121 as follows:

Group 1: Claims 1-27, directed to an ultrasonic etching apparatus; and

Group 2: Claim 28, directed to a method for ultrasonically chemically etching.

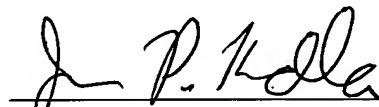
Applicant hereby elects Group 2 / claim 28 for examination. Applicant further requests examination of new claims 29-54 which depend directly or indirectly on independent claim 28.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The amendment was made to expedite the prosecution of this application. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of the amended claims and reserves the right to re-introduce them and claims of an equivalent scope in a continuation application.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel at the number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
PERKINS COIE LLP



Jonathan P. Kudla
Reg. No. 47,724

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Customer No. 22918
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 2168
Menlo Park, CA 94026
Telephone: (650) 838-4300